

I'm Here, But You Don't Know It

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I'm Here, But You Don't Know It

by [Lol_ItsPriya](#)

Summary

Is a part of my series 'Is It Too Late to Fix This?'

Spiderman is forced to interact with the Avengers for the greater good, only they don't realize that they're actually talking to Peter.

Notes

See the end of the work for [notes](#)

It was a warm night, which Peter usually preferred considering his inability to thermoregulate. The June air blanketed his body, providing a strange sense of comfort.

It had been almost a year and a half since he left. He had just finished off his senior year, and in two months, he would be 18.

He was going to Columbia University. Originally he was nervous, after all, Columbia's acceptance rate was lower than MIT's, but it was a good school that would allow him to still be spiderman.

Spiderman had been gaining a lot of popularity, and he was pretty proud of himself. He did all of this, without his 'family'. It had been a while since he ever thought about them, and he was happier than ever.

Therefore, he was more than a little pissed at Matt for what happened next.

"Peter," Matt exasperated.

"What?" He responded, a sneer lining his voice.

"I know you have a history with them, but just this once!"

"You tried to trick me into working with the Avengers, who you know I fucking despise!"

"What even is your problem with them? I know a lot of people who don't support what they do, but can't you work with them once?"

Peter let out a sigh. It was like Matt said, this was a one time thing. One time.

"Fine"

He came back to the group, which consisted of him, Iron man, Hawkeye, and Black widow.

"You done with your temper tantrum yet?" said Tony.

"Oh shut up, cyborg"

The mission was fairly simple. Hydra was buying a group of little girls from a trafficking ring, probably for experimentation. Peter was to get in undetected and disable all alarm systems and cameras. Afterwards, he and Daredevil would deal with the traffickers, and the Avengers would deal with Hydra.

Surprisingly enough, things didn't go to shit within the first two minutes.

When it was all over, Daredevil had already left. Spiderman was better with de-escalation and comforting victims anyways, so that just left Peter and the people he hated with every fiber of his being.

"You know, Spiderman, you'd be a really good asset to the team," Clint started.

"Thanks, birdshit, but frankly, I've got better things to do," he fired back

"Like what?" Natasha snorted.

"Like, mmm, not being around you assholes"

"No offense, kid, but we're literally earth's mightiest heroes, so I'd tone down the attitude," Tony interjected.

"Earth's mightiest heroes', I'm sorry, didnt you literally create Ultron?"

"Don't try that shit with me, underoos."

Peter just snorted before swinging away, hoping that he had made enough of a bad impression.

‘Apparently not,’ Peter thought, not two weeks later.

“Nice to know I have a fan”

“Don’t flatter yourself,” responded Natasha.

Peter could tell that someone had been following him for the past two weeks, and though he’d always managed to shake the tail off, he’d never been able to catch them. Only now, on a rooftop standing opposite to Black Widow, did he realize who was following him.

“I mean, with the way you’ve been stalking me for the past two weeks, I’d say ‘fan’ is in the ballpark”

Natasha tensed. Of course, she was basically a super spy, she didn’t expect Peter to know she was following him. One of the many perks of the spider sense.

“You know, you’ve caught the eye of my boss. I’d say that’s pretty impressive”

“I’d say that’s more of a nuisance”

“Most people would be grateful for the opportunity”

“I’m not most people”

“Look, the work you’ve been doing around here? It’s good. The crime rate in Brooklyn’s dropped by over 30% because of what you’ve been doing. Considering how that HYDRA bust went down, i’d say you’d be a pretty good aspect to the team”

“And I’d say that I don’t want anything to do with the avengers”

“You atleast need to register. You realize that we can’t just let an enhanced individual roam the streets, right?”

‘Shit,’ he mentally scolded, ‘they want me to register?’. Giving up his identity was essentially suicide. The Avengers would know who he was to them, and when they found out about Stephen, then he’d be a criminal, too. Not to mention, Peter wasn’t 18 yet. Tony could have Stephen arrested for kidnapping, and then force Peter back into his custody.

“Yeah, hard pass”

“You don’t just get to pass up something like this. You need to register, or we’ll have no choice but to bring you in by force.”

‘Shit, shit, shit!’ Peter’s head was racing with thoughts. This was the last thing he wanted. Jesus, no matter what Peter did, the Avengers always had to make life a little bit harder for him.

“And then what? Make a youtube apology video? Go on a talk show and act sad?” Peter started, “I don’t know if you’ve noticed, but the public likes me a lot more than they like you.”

Some realization started to come to Natasha’s eyes, as she realized that Peter might actually have a good point.

“Whether you like it or not, if you try to bring me in, it’ll get out. And that would destroy your reputation with the public, which I understand you’ve been trying so hard to fix”

Natasha simply gave a glare, before hopping off the roof, leaving Peter alone. One thing was for sure, this was not the last time Peter would see the Avengers.

Peter finished up patrol, before swinging back into his room. It was already four in the morning, which meant Stephen would be asleep. Peter sighed, he knew he should tell Stephen about his recent encounter with the Avengers, especially because it was apparent it would happen again, but he just didn’t have the heart to wake him up. With another tired sigh, Peter peeled off his suit and pulled on some sweatpants, before collapsing into his bed.

He planned to tell Stephen the next morning, he really did, but he didn’t get the chance. As he woke up and stepped out to the kitchen, he realized something was off. Stephen greeted him a good morning like usual, but somehow, it was different.

“So, when were you going to tell me you were talking to them again?”

Peter tensed. Of course he knew who ‘them’ was. But how did Stephen know?

“What?” Peter squeaked out.

“There’s a news article. Someone took a video of your little meeting with Black Widow. It’s all over the news”

With that, Stephen flipped his phone around to show Peter what he was looking at.

A news article titled ‘Is Spiderman with the Avengers?’ was displayed on the bright screen, with a picture of Peter and Natasha standing together.

“I was gonna tell you this morning! It was like 4:00 am when I came back so-“

“you know you’re only supposed to stay out till 2:00, and that’s stretching it”

“Okay, yeah, that’s true but it’s also not the point”

Stephen raised his brow.

“Okay, okay, here’s what happened. So, I was with Matt, right, and he like tricked me into working with the Avengers”

“Hold on,” Stephen interjected, “I think we skipped a couple pages, slow down”

Peter explained everything in the most PG way possible. Frankly, the more he explained things the more scared he became. Considering his encounter with Black Widow the previous night, there was no way the Avengers would leave him alone. Especially with how much more prominent he was becoming, there was no way Nick Fury wouldn’t be trying to figure out his identity.

“I mean, first off, do you want to start talking to them again?” Stephen asked.

“What?”

“Do you want to talk to them? They won’t know it’s you, and maybe later down the line, when I can’t be charged with kidnapping, you could show them your identity?”

“You’re saying I should restart a relationship with them?”

“I’m saying that you have an opportunity to get proper closure, but you absolutely do not have to take it. I support either decision you make,” he said.

That definitely left Peter with a lot to think about. On the one hand, the Avengers were neglectful assholes, and Peter didn’t want anything to do with them. On the other hand, all Peter wanted was closure, and this was probably his only way to get it. Not to mention the fact that if the Avengers kept following him, maybe he should play nice? He really didn’t know. If the Avengers actually figured out his identity, then he was screwed. There was a 100% chance that Tony would connect Peter Parker to Peter Stark. Not to mention the trouble Stephen could get in.....

But he was a smart man, considering how Peter literally had a different identity, Stephen could easily say that he had no idea who Peter really was, and all he saw was a poor homeless kid in need of help. Matt was literally a lawyer, and that was only if Tony actually cared enough to take legal action.

Either way, Peter knew he would have to deal with the Avengers soon. He just didn’t know Harley would be included in the mix.

Harley and Tony spent a lot of quality time in Tony’s lab, Peter knew that. What Peter probably should have predicted was that Harley would be able to get his own spot on the Avengers team.

“Hey, Spiderman! Maybe leave this one to us?” Shouted the Iron Lad from up above.

Some weird...thing had come out of the river, somewhere near Whitestone bridge, and was plowing its way west. The thing was dangerously close to the shoreline, and parts of Queens and Brooklyn were at risk of being flooded. The thing had no solid shape, it was almost like a blob of water had come to life. It was covered in water, river plants, and general pollutants, skewing its shape. Even then, the thing was absolutely massive, and one sharp turn sent massive waves of water onto the coast of College Point.

Spiderman had arrived on the scene first, aiding civilians in getting away, keeping the thing away from the land, etc. The Avengers came not long after, which included Harley, aka Iron Lad.

“This is my city, I’m going to defend it. And, no offense, I’ve been doing this a lot longer than you,” Peter shouted back.

Iron Man, Iron Lad, Falcon, and Vision were currently up in the air, trying to get readings on the thing. Peter guessed that meant the others were up ahead, trying to figure out ways to stop the monster from going further. Peter was swinging from building to building trying to keep up with the monster, and keep it away. Out of nowhere, Wanda had appeared next to him, ‘who knew she could fly?’, asking him to stop.

Peter stopped on the roof of a building, where Wanda quickly gave him a comm.

“If you’re going to be fighting this thing, you need to be working with us”

Peter nodded, before continuing to follow the thing.

“Hello? It’s Spiderman”

“Nice to see you helping out, Spiderman,” Steve commented.

“Look, before we start up the conversation, let’s introduce some strategy, okay?” Tony remarked.

“Right,” Peter replied, “Tell me what you’re planning”

“So far, Me, Iron Lad, and Vision are trying to get a reading on this thing. We know it isn’t a machine of some kind, but the river junk sticking to it is preventing us from getting too many readings”

“Have you tried blasting some of the stuff off?”

“Can’t get close enough without it swatting us away,” Tony responded.

“Cap, Black Widow and Hawkeye are stationed up ahead trying to find ways to slow this thing down. For now, you, Scarlet Witch, and Iron Lad should stay by the coast line and keep this thing away,” Sam added.

“Do you think it would be possible to topple this thing over?” Harley asked.

“No,” Peter responded, “It would cause flooding in the streets, and we don’t even know if it would neutralize this thing”

“Shouldn’t we at least try?”

“No. Always try to put civilians first, toppling this thing over would cause massive flooding”

“Spider Man’s right, Iron Lad. We need to think about the civilians, toppling it would be too risky,” said Cap.

After a couple more minutes of failed readings, no new plans, and silence, Peter spoke.

“Guys, I might have an idea”

“Shoot away, kid,” Steve replied.

“If one of you could fly up above the monster and drop me down, I could try to peel away some of the river gunk, then we could find out what this thing’s made out of and how to neutralize it”

“Good plan,” Tony praised, “It can’t be Wanda, since she’s holding back the water, so either me, Falcon or Vision’s got to do it.”

“Problem is,” Sam interjected, “if me, Iron Man or Vision leave this needy ass monster’s side, then it won’t let us back close enough to do readings.”

“I could do it!” Harley squeaked.

“Ah, no offense, Iron Lad, but I don’t exactly trust you not to drop me, considering this is your first time doing something like this”

“Don’t worry, Spiderman, that’s fine. You’re coming up on my position anyways. Falcon, get as far away as you can without breaking formation, Spiderman i’ll give you a boost,” Cap added.

Spiderman saw Cap not too far away, so he sped up until he was face to face with him. The Captain held his shield out, allowing Peter to run and jump off of it and on to Falcon. From there, Peter jumped onto Tony and then Vision, before jumping onto the monster.

Immediately, Peter gripped onto the thing. He soon started kicking off layers and layers off river plants, plastics, and general garbage. Finally, a patch of the actual monster was vulnerable.

“Can you guys get a reading?” Peter asked.

“Yup,” Tony responded. “I won’t give you the scientific explanation now, but basically, it’s a shit ton of lab experiments mashed together”

“It seems to be a combination of chemicals, substances and DNA that has somehow become sentient.” Vision added.

“Hold on,” said Natasha, “How did that even happen? Was it purposeful?”

“My guess is that it was an accident. Multiple factories and science labs, such as Oscorp, dump their garbage into the river. I’m assuming that the wrong types of chemicals mixed together in a way that created this”

“What are the chances of that, though?” said Clint, “Close to nothing?”

“I’ll admit, it’s a little bit suspicious, but we can’t focus on that right now,” replied Tony.

“What do we do? We can’t keep this up forever,” asked Peter.

“If I can figure out exactly what made this thing, I can get Bruce to make a counter agent back at the lab,” said Tony.

“How long will it take to figure out what this thing’s made of?”

“Fifteen minutes, at least”

“For now, we need to figure out ways to slow this thing down, at the rate we’re going, this thing’ll crash into Rikers Island in ten minutes”

“Wanda, could you try and make some barriers to contain it?” Iron Lad asked.

“Considering the size of the thing? I won’t be able to hold it for too long, plus, I need to focus on keeping the water from crashing to the buildings”

“It’s only a little water,” protested Harley.

“Actually, this things kicking up several tons of water. With the speed it’ll be coming down, it would destroy buildings and cause a lot of casualties. Civilians first,” scolded Peter.

They did find a way to slow down the monster, and Bruce was actually able to create a counter agent in only eight minutes (Peter counted). Soon, Iron Man’s drones were flying them over to Hawkeye. Spiderman cleared an area on the things center, so that its material was fully vulnerable. In just a couple seconds, Hawkeye was able to shoot an arrow loaded with the counter agents straight into the things center.

Spiderman left the clean up for the government and Stark’s relief fund. He wanted to get out of there as soon as possible. Unfortunately, things didn’t always go the way he wanted.

He ended up letting himself get dragged to the Avengers place, which he later hated himself for. They treated Spiderman the way Peter had always wanted to be treated. And as much as he hated himself for it, he kept going back.

He never let his guard down when he was around the Avengers, but he did attend movie night. The Avengers never found out that he was actively attending college, much less that he was once their ‘family’. Maybe it was some long shot way of getting closure, maybe it was because he wanted to show them what they were missing all those years they ignored him, he didn’t know. What he did

know was that he was very interested in the following conversation.

“I thought you were an only child?” asked Peter. He was dropping by the Avengers compound for his monthly training session that was mainly done so that they could all get used to fighting around each other. Harley had mentioned that he had a brother, and of course Peter had to take the opportunity.

“Yeah, I used to have a brother,” Harley responded.

“Used too?”

“I had another kid, Peter,” Tony interjected, “He ended up running away about a year and a half ago”

“Really, why?” Peter asked. God, all he wanted was to see what they thought.

“Honestly? We don’t really know,” said Wanda, “I mean we do, but we don’t”

“What do you mean?”

“Peter…we never really paid much attention to him, but that can’t be the sole reason he left, you know?” said Natasha.

“Yeah,” Tony sighed, “me and Peter got into this massive argument because he had been pulling this disappearing act, right? Well, I guess it was his tipping point, because he left”

“I just wish Peter would give us a chance, you know?” Harley said.

“Well, we all had a rough childhood, right? What can you do?” Peter responded. He could hear anymore. They thought that they didn’t pay enough attention to him? They practically abused him! They were cold, distant, and didn’t give two shits about him. He left because he needed to make himself a life, and they couldn’t help him with that. Peter gave them every chance in the world, and they didn’t care.

“What happened to you, if you don’t mind me asking?” Natasha said.

“Eh, I mean my family were always…apathetic to me. My father was cold, distant, closed off. Never really gave two shits about what I did, never even said more than a sentence to me a week. He adored my brother, though. Movie nights, game nights, PTA meetings, the works. Would’ve burned the world down for my brother, and forgot me in the process. Eventually I ran away, figured that I needed to make a life for myself”

“Wow, that was definitely the right decision. I mean, you had to leave,” said Harley.

“I just can’t believe he did that for your brother and not you, I mean did he even consider how you felt?” Tony added.

‘How ironic,’ Peter thought. After the Avengers were done cooing over him, and how shitty his family was, Peter decided. The Avengers didn’t care about Peter. Spiderman, yeah, but Peter? No. They literally pointed out everything they themselves did to Peter, without even noticing it. It was official, Peter didn’t want closure from them. Peter didn’t want to rebuild. He wanted to leave those

assholes in the dirt. Everything he had with the Avengers would be strictly professional, and he would make sure he wouldn't have to see them for at least a year.

That was, until Spiderman.

End Notes

Okay! So it is kind of rushed in the end, ignore that! Sorry for not updating this past week or this weekend, i've just been really busy and only just found time to write. I am introducing a comic character, but mainly just to help move the story forward in a proper way. I have not read the comics, so I am so, so sorry if I mess some things up, but I am trying! I hoped you liked it!

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